



# United States Department of the Interior

## NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20240

SEP 05 2018

### Memorandum

To: Regional Directors

From: Deputy Director *for* *W. J. O'Keefe*  
Exercising the Authority of the Director

Subject: Increased Law Enforcement Staffing on the Southern Border

In accordance with the President's commitment to secure our Nation's borders, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) requested that the Secretary of the Interior provide increased staffing levels on certain Department of the Interior lands that are located on our Nation's southern border.

Specifically, the National Park Service was directed to provide increases in law enforcement staffing levels at Amistad National Recreation Area (AMIS), and Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument (ORPI).

Initially, this request was for 90 days, ending on August 19<sup>th</sup>. Since then, we have received direction from the Office of the Secretary to continue providing additional Law Enforcement personnel at AMIS, and ORPI throughout fiscal year

The Department's Office of Law Enforcement is working with Bureau Law Enforcement Chiefs and DHS to develop a strategic plan that will identify specifically what our deployment schedule will be for fiscal year 2019. The timing of the deployments has not been agreed upon yet, and we do not anticipate our commitment of twenty Law Enforcement resources to change.

The Office of the Secretary has directed that NPS immediately provide eleven law enforcement resources to AMIS through September 30, 2018. ORPI will operate with their normal park staffing until the strategic plan is completed.

The Intermountain Regional Director and staff have done a tremendous job coordinating operations during the first 90 days of the surge, and I have asked them to continue to exercise operational responsibility for these on-going efforts.

This is a Servicewide initiative, and it is my expectation that all Regions and the United States Park Police will provide staffing to ensure we efficiently and effectively meet the operational objectives.

Lastly, it is recognized that utilizing deployed resources is not a preferred long-term strategy. In concert with you and your staff, we intend to develop and communicate a strategy to Senior Leaders in the Department that will meet the Secretary's intent while making the most effective use of resources and personnel.

Please accept my sincere gratitude for your efforts as we continue to support this important directive.

cc: Deputy Director, Operations  
Deputy Director, Management and Administration  
Regional Directors  
Chief, United States Park Police  
Superintendents